

I would like to add my name to growing list of Amateur Radio operators and other users of high-frequency (HF) radio to object to BPL. My reason for objecting is that for many years electric power companies have not been able to control or eliminate radio frequency interference (RFI) from their conventional facilities.

My local utility here in the Chicago suburbs is Commonwealth Edison. My Amateur Radio HF station in Wilmette has been subjected to intense power-line noise from a line feeding a shopping center that is two miles away. The noise is so intense that it makes Military Affiliate Radio System frequencies near the 75/80 meter Amateur Radio bands unusable.

At another location in nearby Park Ridge near the intersection of Oakton St. and Milwaukee Ave., noise on a power line feeding a shopping center is so strong that it completely blocks all reception of WLS-AM, which is transmitting on 890 KHz. It also is very strong in the lower frequency Amateur bands.

Having shown examples of RFI with Amateur and MARS station receivers, I now wish to comment on BPL response to HF transmitters in licensed services (e.g. Amateur Radio). I have been a licensed Amateur Radio operator for almost 50 years and a degreed Electrical Engineer for 42+ years. During these times, I have worked on RFI complaints made by neighbors and others. Even when Amateur Radio stations were not at fault (e.g. station off the air at time of claimed interference), the public is loath to admit its equipment is at fault. Instead it is eager to blame Amateur Radio operators and subject licensees to public pressure, restrictive ordinances, police visits and the like. I have no reason to believe that BPL operating in Amateur/MARS frequencies will be able to distinguish between its own signals and those of licensees. Thus when an Amateur/MARS operator makes a transmission and BPL signals are overwhelmed by licensed signals, the public is not going to blame the BPL provider - it will blame Amateur, MARS and other HF licensees for signal loss.

For these reasons, I respectfully join with others in requesting that the Commission withdraw its NPRM for BPL and rule that BPL is not an authorized Part 15 service or technology.